

# Opinion

Ahwatukee Foothills News • February 15, 2006

## Letters

### An open letter to Gov. Napolitano

**Dear Editor:**

I hear all our elected officials talk about the issue, yet the only news we ever get is from the Arizona Department of Transportation which seems to be going ahead full steam with the plans they had envisioned 20 years ago for the Loop 202 South Mountain Freeway.

How can we justify a highway to pass through our pristine parkland? South Mountain Park is for us, the residents of Arizona, and for future generations to have open spaces, hiking trails and parkland for all to enjoy. It is our duty to protect this land for the children of tomorrow.

You as an elected official can instill much more support. I would like to know your views on this freeway, which is not only destroying hundreds of homes but is mauling the very essence of the largest municipal park in the nation! If we as people cannot do some right for the future generations of tomorrow, what would be our legacy to give? If we only choose to do the obvious, the planned, and never stop to appreciate the natural surroundings for all they are worth, never considered to do something not because it was easy but because it was difficult!

This problem requires the ADOT and city of Phoenix to think outside the box. Any viable environmentally sound solution to the traffic congestion problem is going to come with a price, but for what it is worth we should be ready to pay the price.

I urge you to take a walk down Pecos Road and

through the South Mountain Park trails. Do not build on this beautiful preserve, Governor Napolitano. I hope to receive a response not what is right but what we ought to do to set an example for times to come.

A concerned Arizonan.

**Samarth Mohan**

### Daily planning makes commuting easier

**Dear Editor:**

Once again it's all about Andy Krals (AFN letters, Dec. 21, 2005) and his band of followers.

It's more important for him to get to his job appointments, than the health and well-being of the people in this community.

I also have a job that takes me to all points of the Valley. But I plan my workday around the rush hours, south and east in the morning, north and west in mid-morning, what a concept. Why is it that all the people who write in favor of the Loop 202 South Mountain Freeway, are only thinking of themselves. Do they have blinders on? Do they not care about the health hazard this will create for the children that will be attending schools within hundreds of feet on this monstrosity?

I say to Andy, when you're handing your petition to the Arizona Department of Transportation give them your résumé. For you are a prime candidate to be one of their closed-minded employees.

**Jeff Ludwig**